2: Blackman E-5 (1920-1926) 1927
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LIST OF ARABIC WORDS
EMPLOYED IN THE TEXT

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A[1]

abb (pl. *abahāt*), father; *Yā abūi!* O my father! an exclamation of distress or pain, 119, 226
aḥsan, better; *aḥsan khāliṣ*, much better, 123
aiwa, yes, 83
akh, alas! fie!, 225 f.
akhkh (pl. *ikhwāt*, *ikhwān*[2]), brother; *Yā akhūi!* O my brother!, 123
atl, tamarisk, 205

B

bakīyeh, el-, what remains over, 114
ballāṣ (pl. *balālīṣ*), water-pot, 142, 153
barakeh, blessing, healing virtue, good luck, 33, 65. 99 f., and *passim*
barūkeh, lucky coin, 99
bashkūr, iron rod for moving bread in the oven, 164
battaw, bread made from *dura*-flour and resembling oatcake, 65, 163
buḫāḫ, fumes, 53
būṣ, dry maize-stalks, 27 f., 148, 150, 192

D

darābukkeh, pottery drum, 85, 168
dastūr, permission, 229
dikkeh (pl. *dikak*), wooden bench with back and arms, 27
dukk, tattoo! (imperat. masc. sing. of *daḳḳ*, he has tattooed), 51
dura, maize, 39, 163 f., 175, 182, 192, 310

Ḍ

A strong palatal.

ḍufr, nail, claw; possibly 'horn' of a cerastes (horned viper), 66

E

ēy, what, 120

F

fakrūn, tortoise, 194, *n.* 2
farrāsh, sweeper, 248, *n.* 1, 249
Fātiheh, el-, the first chapter of the Ḳorān, 212, 252
faṭīr, sweet pastry, 175 f.
feddān, acre, 38 f.
fellāḥ (fem. *fellāḥeh*, pl. *fellāḥīn*), cultivator, peasant, *passim*
fi, in, 114
fiḳīh (pl. *fuḳahā*), person who recites the Ḳorān and who is more or less versed in the religion and law of Islām, 109, 111 f., 114 f., 117 ff., 172, 256, 259, 293, 308 f.
fiṭāmeh, act of weaning; used metaphorically of the last time of irrigating a field of *dura*, 175, 177
fulān, so and so, 118
fūweh, madder, 194

G

gallabīyeh (pl. *galālīb*), a long blouse, often made of white or blue cotton cloth, 32, 73, 88, 187, 285 f.
garūt, an implement used in pottery-making, 149 f.
gebel, mountain, 246
gināb, excellency; *gināb es-sitt*, honoured lady, 69
ginn, class of supernatural beings, 68 f., 227

GH

A very guttural r.

ghiṭās, baptism by immersion; *Yōm el-Ghiṭās*, 263, 298

[1] For the pronunciation of modern Egyptian Arabic vowels and consonants see J. S. Willmore, *The Spoken Arabic of Egypt* (London, 1905), pp. 1 ff.
[2] *Ikhwān* means 'brethren,' 'associates.'

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H

A smooth but very strong guttural aspirate.

ḥagar, stone, 203
ḥalfa, coarse kind of grass, 248
ḥamr, reddish clay used in pottery-making, 145
ḥaseneh, charity, 65, 118
ḥayāt, life ; *El-bakīyeh fi ḥayātak*, May what remains over be in your life, 114
ḥelbeh, fenugreek, 78
ḥenna, red dye made from the leaves of the shrub *Lawsonia inermis*, 57, 87 f.
ḥigāb, charm, amulet, 71
ḥirbāyeh, chameleon, 66

I

iblīz,[1] mud of the Nile left behind after the inundation, 62
ibrīḳ (pl. *ibārīḳ*), ewer with long, curved spout, 78
iddī, give ! ; *iddīnī*, give me, 118
ism, name ; *Bismillāh er-Raḥmān er-Raḥīm*, In the name of God the Compassionate, the Merciful, 82
iswid, black, 206

Ḳ

kaḳk, cakes, 115, 118
kammūn, cumin, 206
keda, thus, 83
kenīseh, church, 106
kishk, wheat mixed with milk, made into small balls, and dried in the sun,[2] 89, 222 f.
kisweh, rug, carpet, 264, *n.* 1, 265
Kiyakh, fourth month in the Coptic year, 234
koḥl, antimony, 59, 79 f., 284
kunāfeh, fine macaroni, vermicelli, 175 f.
kurbāg, whip made of hide, 131
kūz (pl. *kīzān*), mug, 75, 167

Ḳ

Deep guttural k.

ḳāḍi, judge ; one who draws up marriage contracts and who arranges divorces, 43, 92, 191 f.
ḳādūs (pl. *ḳawādīs*), special kind of pottery jar, several of which are attached by cords to the water-wheel,[3] 101
ḳafaṣ (pl. *aḳfāṣ*), basket or cage made of palm-ribs, 160 f., 165, 304
ḳamḥ, wheat, corn, 172 f.
ḳandīl (pl. *ḳanādīl*), old-fashioned saucer-lamp, 237
ḳarīn (fem. *ḳarīneh*, pl. *aḳrān*), personality born with each human being and of the same sex, pp. 54, 64 ff., 69 ff. and *passim*
ḳibleh, prayer-niche in a mosque, 250
ḳulleh (pl. *ḳulal*), earthen water-bottle, 140, 149, 151 f., 167, 231 f., 237

KH

Pronounced like ch *in Scottish* loch.

khāliṣ, much, very, exceedingly, 123
Khamasīn, the period immediately following the Coptic festival of Easter Sunday and terminating on Whit Sunday—an interval of forty-nine days,[4] 261
khubz, wheaten bread, 64 f., 163.
khud, take !, 118

L

lāzimeh, obligatory gift, a special kind of charm, 199
līf, fibre from the trunk of the palm-tree, 161

M

mā, what, that which, 220 f.
mabsūṭ, pleased, 58
maḥalleh, implement on which wool is wound after it is spun, 73
maḥāreh, kind of shell, 203

[1] Derived from πηλός, according to E. W. Lane, *An Arabic-English Lexicon* (London, 1863–), vol. i, p. 248.
[2] See also E. W. Lane, *The Manners and Customs of the Modern Egyptians* (London, 1871), vol. ii, p. 223, n. 1.
[3] See p. 171, and E. W. Lane, *op. cit.*, vol. ii, p. 26.
[4] See E. W. Lane, *op. cit.*, vol. ii, pp. 222 f.

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makṭaf (pl. *makāṭif*), large basket woven from palm-leaves, 65, 155 f., 304
malāk (pl. *malāyikeh*), angel, 78
malkaf (pl. *malākif*), ventilator on roof of house, 280
mandareh, reception room, 27
maṣṭabeh (pl. *maṣāṭib*), brick bench, 32, 242, 281
mikḥaleh, bottle for *koḥl*, 59
mughreh, red ochre, 146
moiyeh, water; *moiyet el-malāyikeh*, water of the angels, 78
mubārakīn, blessed ones; used euphemistically of the *'afārīt*, 229
mueddin, officiant (often blind) who chants the call to prayer from the mosque, 31, 172, 308 f.
muḳarraṣ, made into little cakes; descriptive of the way in which a boy's hair is cut by the barber before he undergoes circumcision, 87
mūlid (pl. *mawālid*), festival, 81, 83, 244 ff., 252 ff.; *Mūlid en-Nebi*, Festival of the Prophet—*i.e.*, the annual celebration of the Prophet's birthday, 252
mūṣ, very finely chopped straw, 149

N

nāb, double tooth, 66
nabbūt (pl. *nabābīt*), single-stick, 129, 131, 133
nadam, single-membrane drum, 265, 267
nahār, day; *Nahārak sa'īd*, Good day!, 120
nāi, kind of flute, 167
nebi, prophet, 79, 220 f.
nōrag, threshing-machine, 173
nūr, light; *Yōm Sabt en-Nūr*, the Saturday of the Light, 262

R

rashād, nasturtium, 204
rashteh, macaroni cooked in milk, 175 f.
raṭl, a weight of rather more than 1 lb., 64
rōḥ, soul, 110 f., 118, 237

S

sabt, sabbath; *Yōm Sabt en-Nūr*, the Saturday of the Light, 262
sādif, implement used in pottery-making, 152
sa'īd, happy; *Nahārak sa'īd*, Good day!, 120
semn, clarified butter used in cooking, 167, 195
sibākh, earth from rubbish mounds used as a fertilizer, 156
sibḥeh, rosary, 114
sitt, lady, 69, 118

Ṣ

A very strong sibilant pronounced well back in the mouth.

ṣabī, lad, 51
ṣabr, aloes, 116, 242
ṣalla, bless!; *Ṣalla 'a 'n-Nebi*, Bless the Prophet, 79, 220 f.
ṣughaiyar, little, small, 259, 298
ṣulḥeh, peace-making feast held by persons who have appeased the sheikh or sheikhs by whom they were possessed, 186 f., 199 f.

SH

shā, he hath willed; *Mā shā Allāh*, What God willeth is, 220 f.
shādūf (pl. *shawādīf*), water-hoist, 170 f., 175, 306 f.
shagareh, tree; designation of special tattoo pattern, 52, 55
shahīd (pl. *shuhadā*), martyr, 121
shemm, (act of) smelling; *Shemm en-Nesīm*, the Smelling of the Zephyr, a festival celebrated in April on the first day of the *Khamasīn*,[1] 33, 261
shems, sun, 298

T

tāni, other, second, 63
ta'āla, come!, 51, 124
tibn, finely chopped straw, 149
tōb, outer garment worn by women out of doors, 105
tūtia, sulphate of zinc, 203

[1] See p. 318, note 4.

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T

A strong palatal.

ṭafl, yellow clay used in pottery-making, 146, 151
ṭala', going up; visit (generally weekly) to the cemetery, 117, 263, 298 f., 300
ṭarfā, tamarisk, 188; *ḥagar eṭ-ṭarfā*, stone of the tamarisk, 203
ṭīn, earth, clay, 62
ṭulū' esh-shems, sunrise, 298

U

ukht (pl. *ikhwāt*), sister; also a personality born simultaneously with each human being, but distinct from the *ḳarīn* and *ḳarīneh*, 64, 74 ff., 186 f.

W

walad, child, boy, 63
walī, saint,[1] 244

Y

Yā, O (introducing the vocative), 119 f., 151
yōm, day; *Yōm Sabt en-Nūr*, the Saturday of the Light, 262; *Yōm el-Ghiṭās*, 263, 298

Z

zār, ceremony performed by and for persons possessed by a sheikh or sheikhs, 198 ff.
zarībeh, enclosure for sheep, goats, or cattle, 222
zēy, likeness; *Ēy-zēyak*, How are you?, 120
zikr, religious dance, 255 f., 258
zīr (pl. *ziyār* or *izyār*), large pottery jar in which the household water is stored, 75, 137 f., 149, 151, 153, 220
zummāreh, double reed-pipe with a drone, 167, 172, 308

A strong guttural of the same nature as ḥ, and peculiar to the Semitic languages.

'afrīt (fem. *'afrīteh*, pl. *'afārīt*), a supernatural being supposed to be made of fire and to dwell underground, *passim* and especially 69 f., 177, 223, 227 ff.; summoned by a magician, 193; ghost, 111, 225, 237
'arīf, cantor in a Coptic church, 125 ff., 234
'arūseh, bride; *'arūset el-ḳamḥ*, 'bride of the corn,' 172 f.
'īd, festival; *el-'Īd es-Sughaiyar*, the Little Festival, 259, 298; *el-'Īd el-Kibīr*, the Great Festival, 259 f., 298
'irḳ (pl. *'urūḳ*), root; *'urūḳ el-fūneh*, roots of madder, 194
'omdeh, headman of a village, 225, 235 f., 269

[1] See also E. W. Lane, *op. cit.*, vol. i, p. 289.

3: Ayrout M-5 (ca. 1935) 1945
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Copts MR10

GLOSSARY

The Arabic words are spelt so as to give English readers as close an idea as possible of the correct pronunciation. *Q* is put for the Arabic *qaf*, almost inaudible in Cairo and the Delta, but usually sounded in Upper Egypt like a hard *g*.

areiq —A water-pot with a spout, holding about 1/8 gallon.
'asha —evening meal.
ardeb —198 litres or 4 1/8 cantars.
'arif —Coptic cantor or lay clerk, often a blind man.
'arusa —bride or engaged girl ; or a doll.
Al-Azhar —the ancient Islamic University of Cairo, founded A.D. 988.
balad —town, country, village.
ballas —large round two-eared jar, in which women carry water on their heads.
bandar —provincial capital.
barari —dried-up marshes.
bur —uncultivated or desert lands.
cantar —about 100 lbs. (of cotton)
daira —office of an estate.
dekka —bench.
'ezba —village, privately owned, for the workers of an estate.
fass —hoe.
feddan —a little more than one acre.
fitama —weaning.
gallabiya —long outer robe of men.
gamoosa —female water-buffalo.
garuf —winnowing-fork of wood.
ghada —midday meal.
ghaffir —watchman.
hagg —one who has made the pilgrimage to Mecca.
halla —metal cooking-plate.
ilzamiya —public elementary school.
kassabiya —leveller.
kirat —one twenty-fourth of a feddan.

C F *kohl* —antimony, a black eye-salve, at once decorative and hygienic.

104 *kuz* —drinking-mug: often a tin with a handle.

kuttab —village school of old Koranic type.

lifa —palm-tree fibre.

libda —felt skullcap.

mâmur —chief constable.

mâzun —religious officer, who records marriages, divorces, etc.

mahr —dowry to the bride.

markaz —police district or its headquarters.

mastaba —a raised seat built against a wall.

mawwal —erotic song.

milaya —large black veil for women.

mihrat —plough.

moawen —assistant to the chief constable of a *markaz*.

mudir —governor of a province.

mudiriya —province, rather like an English county.

mulid —birthday feast of a Moslem saint.

nabbut —long stick or cudgel.

nazir —superintendent of an estate.

norag —threshing machine.

'omda —head-man of a village or small town.

oke —about 2 lbs. 12 oz.

okiya —one twelfth of a *rotl* = 1¼ oz.

rayess —foreman, overseer.

rotl —one hundredth of a *cantar* = about 1 lb.

saqia —water-raising machine with wheels and a chain of buckets.

sarraf —tax-collector.

sebakh —natural manure

semad —chemical manure.

shaduf —water-raising machine with a long pole, worked by hand.

sheikh —old man or notable.

shoona —a large enclosed area for storing cotton or grain.

tabliya —very low table for meals.

taqiya —calico skull-cap.

tisht —large basin or shallow tub.

wakf —a peculiar form of entail or trust.

zahhafa —leveller.

TRANSLATOR'S PREFACE

inaccurate. Even so, they do not detract from the real value or purpose of the book, which is to present to English readers a conspectus of the magic and diablerie still common amongst the illiterate villagers of Egypt. Soon they will be lost, buried with the past, and unable to be exhumed like the relics of the dead Pharaohs.

The notes added by the translator, as well as the pagination of the original text, are given within square brackets. In the matter of the transliteration the system of the Royal Asiatic Society is generally employed, except that ḳ = ق, and ء is not transliterated except when followed by a vowel. Standardized words such as *Koran* and *Allah* I have left in that state. Colloquial forms, which abound throughout the work, are given usually as near to the current pronunciation as is needful. I have ordinarily transliterated غ by g, but I have considered it unnecessary, however, to indicate the Cairene pronunciation of the ق (ḳ) as a glottal stop. Besides hitherto unrecorded charms or magic spells, the Arabic text also contains numerous words and phrases which are not usually, or readily, found in the standard dictionaries. From a lexicographical point of view it has been considered worth while to indicate these.

The author, as Dr. Macdonald noted, "writes with the indignation of the qualified medical practitioner." The burden of his tale may well be summed up in the following lines:

> "If you have cancer or nephritis,
> Diabetes or bronchitis,
> Heart disease, tuberculosis,
> Or liver hardening with cirrhosis,
> The doctor will, for sure, detect them,
> And early treatment may correct them."

Hence he is very particular in all cases to add the canonical medical treatment as an antidote to the popular superstitious practices which he so scathingly records. He is also at pains to mention those drugs and herbs which are easily procurable by the Egyptian natives. As these sections are of no value as folklore it has been considered advisable to omit them in the interests of brevity, especially in these days of expensive

7: Riad E-4, 5 (no date) 1960
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Place of observation	Base	Share	Handle	Iron bands	handle grip	Beam
Upper Egypt :						
Mallawi (3) (+)	Wish	Sikke	Gafaira	Tog	Gabda	Gaṣaba
Garf Serhan (2) (+)	"	"	"		"	"
Nazlet 'Abdalla (3) (+)	"	"	Dafaira	Dibel	Yadd	"
Aulad Mohamed (3) (+)	"	"	Gafaira	Dog	Gabda	"
El-'Ezbi (3) (+)	"	"	"	Tog	Babba	"
Aulad 'Imran (3) (+)	"	"	"	"	Dubba	"
Abu Manna' (1) (+)	"	"	"	"	Gabda	"
Ezzaberiat (1) (+)	"	"	"	"	"	"
Kiman (3) (+)	"	"	"	Dibel	"	"
Harragia (2) (+)	"	"	"	"	"	"
El-'Ammari (1) (+)	Wagh	"	"	"	"	"
Nauasir (3) (+)	Wish	"	"	"	Maghad	"
Kelh (3) (+)	Wigh	"	Hadd	"	"	"
Ramedi South (1) (+)	"	"	Gafaira	"	"	"
Benban (3) (+)	Wagh	"	Hadd	"	"	"
Baharif (3) (+)	Sikke	"	Rigil	"	Yadd	
Palestine :						
Southern area (=) (=) (+)	Arḍiya	Haseem	Romin		Hamama	Koo'
Libya :						
Tripoli (2) (=) (+)	El-Layta	Sikka	Seluqina	—	Qarraqa	Raqaba

(1) Ploughs observed by the author.
(2) Ploughs described by some students of the author (faculty of Arts, Ain-Shams Univ.).
(3) Ploughs described by H. A. Winkler pp. 153-158 (see references below).
(+) Double handle plough.
(=) Curved beam plough.
(+) One animal plough (usually garden plough).
(+|+) Wheeled plough (usually used in sandy areas).
(+|) Wheeled plough (usually for vegetables).
(= =) The first part of the beam, which is attached to the share is called Wasle, while the forked fore part of the beam is called Arish, and the whole is called Ous. see Winkler, H. A., p. 154.

[241]

Transcription :

' همزه	b ب	ḥ ح	kh خ	Sh ش	ṣ ص		
ḍ ض	ṭ ط	' ع	gh غ	q ق			

[104]

This Sign – on any vowel means elongation of the vowel.

8:Schaefer A-5 (1900-1901) 1904
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think that among these unpretentious verses are some, which will give others as much pleasure as they did me.[1]

I wrote down the collection in the winter of 1900—1901, during the excavations of the Berlin Museum at the sun-temple of the old king, Ne-user-Rē, at Abūṣir. (The ruin is called by the people: Abu Gūrâb.) In spite of this, not one of my informants was a Būṣîri (man of Abūṣir), but the entire collection of songs comes from Sa''āris[2] (Saqqāries), inhabitants of Sa''āra (Saqqāra), familiar to all travelers. The nucleus, some forty, I obtained from our black Abu Bekr Ibrāhîm es-Sūdâni, a bright, half-grown lad, whose family for several generations, had lived in Egypt. The remainder, with but few exceptions, were contributed by our old rafîr (watchman), Maḥmûd Moḥammed el-'Itr. All the other songs also, were rewritten at his dictation, so that all these printed texts give his pronunciation, which was very beautiful and clear. The old man was indefatigable; every day he came with a new song. "Write! — A new one has flown into my head", were usually his words. When the text was

[1]) A few songs from this collection have already been printed in Arbeit und Rythmus, by K. Buecher (Leipzig, Teubner 1902), and in No. 14 of the Mitteilungen der Deutschen Orient-Gesellschaft.

[2]) The Arabic letter qāf, which in this vicinity is either not pronounced at all, or is spoken like a sharp hiātus, I designate with: '. I found this pronunciation as far as Ehnasye near Beni-Suēf.